

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADANA 00034 121743Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL ADANA

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

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DOMDR DET 10 INCIRLIK TU

COMDR DET 193 INCIRLIK TU

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ELAB, MILI, TU

SUBJECT: INCIRLIK HARB IS (LABOR UNION) LEADER ATTACKS AMERICAN
ICDI BASE COMMANDER IN PRESS

REF: ADANA 0341

1. FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN 12 FEB ADANA EDITIONS OF HURRIYET
AND YENI ADANA: QUOTE: ON BEHALF OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE
ADANA BRANCH OF THE HARB-IS LABOUR UNION, ZEKI KISIAL, PRESIDENT
OF THE UNION, GAVE A WRITTEN STATEMENT TO THE PRESS YESTERDAY AND

PAGE 2 RUFLEPA4453 C O N F I D E N T I A L

PROTESTED AGAINST COL. HART, COMMANDER OF DET 193 AT INCIRLIK CDI.
HE CLAIMED THAT COL HART WHO, KEPT THE TURKISH WORKERS UNDER PRES-
SURE AND SUPPRESSION DURING THE CYPRUS OPERATION, HAS RECENTLY IN-
CREASED HIS ACTIONS AGAINST THE TURKISH WORKERS. ZEKI KISIAL STATED
THAT AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE CYPRUS OPERATIONS COL HART PLACED
AMERICAN AIRMEN WITH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND WATCH DOGS AT THE GATES
THROUGH WHICH THE TURKISH WORKERS PASSED, AND FURTHER, WITH THE AIM
OF PREVENTING THE FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN OF THE TURKISH WORKERS FOR
THE ARMY, HE HAD THE AMERICAN SECRET POLICE, CALLED OSI, SUPPRESS
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PAGE 02 ADANA 00034 121743Z

THE TURKISH WORKERS. KISIAL FURTHER SAID THAT IN ORDER NOT TO

HARM THE EXISTING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS, THE UNION HAD STAYED VERY TOLERANT OF THE COLONEL'S ACTIONS, AND THEY ONLY COMPLAIN-

ED ABOUT HIM TO THE AMERICAN CONSULATE AND HIS SUPERIORS. THE UNION LEADER CONCLUDED: "COLONEL HART HAS JUST SET UP A NEW METHOD OF SUPPRESSION BY FORBIDDING THE SICK AND WOUNDED TURKISH WORKERS TO USE THE AMERICAN BUSES. WE HEREBY PROTEST HIS ACTIONS BEFORE THE PUBLIC". UNQUOTE.

2. KISIAL'S PRESS RELEASE CAME AS A COMPLETE SURPRISE TO ICDI AND THE CONSULATE, BOTH UNAWARE THAT HE WAS HARBORING ANY MAJOR NEW GRIEVANCES. UPON READING ABOVE WE SOUGHT TO MEET WITH KISIAL,

PAGE 3 RUFLEPA4453 C O N F I D E N T I A L

BUT LEARNED THAT HE HAD LEFT ADANA EVENING 11 FEB TO ATTEND NATIONAL HARB-IS MEETINGS IN ANKARA. HIS OFFICE REPORTED, HOWEVER, THAT WHEN HE LEFT, KISIAL HAD BEEN "HOPPING MAD" AT COLONEL HART.

3. COMMENT: KISIAL'S DECISION TO DENOUNCE COL HART AT THIS TIME IS PUZZLING. PERHAPS IT WAS DONE FOR REASONS OF INTERNAL UNION POLITICS, CAREFULLY TIMED TO CORRESPOND WITH HIS DEPARTURE FOR ANKARA

. WE THINK IT MORE LIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT KISIAL WAS SEEKING TO ENHANCE THE PROSPECTS OF HIS BUDDING POLITICAL CAREER (SEE REFTEL)). HE STILL TALKS FREELY ABOUT HIS AMBITION TO BECOME A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, AND BLITHELY ACKNOWLEDGES HIS NEED FOR PUBLICITY. IN ANY CASE, WE BELIEVE THAT THE MOVE WAS A CALCULATED ONE, UNRELATED TO THE TRIVIAL INCIDENT WHICH HIS OFFICE ALLEDGES MADE HIM HOPPING MAD. (THE INCIDENT INVOLVED UNAUTHORIZED USE BY A TURKISH WORKER OF A USAF VEHICLE AND HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE BUSES.) 4. IGNORING HIS LONG STANDING PRACTICE, WHICH THIS OFFICE HAS SOUGHT TO ENCOURAGE, KISIAL CHOSE NOT TO AIR HIS GRIEVANCE WITH THE CONSULATE BEFORE ACTING. TWICE BEFORE KISIAL HAD THREATENED TO THIS OFFICE TO DENOUNCE COL HART TO THE PRESS. IN EACH CASE, WE, BY EXPLAINING THE BASE'S SIDE OF THE DIPUTE OF POINTING OUT THE SOURCE OF MISUNDERSTANDING, HAD HELPED DISUADE HIM. IN THEIS

PAGE 4 RUFLEPA4453 C O N F I D E N T I A L

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PAGE 03 ADANA 00034 121743Z

CASE, HOWEVER, IT IS LIKELY THAT HE DID NOT CONTACT US NOR SIGNAL HIS INTENTIONS TO THE BASE BECAUSE WAS DETERMINED TO PROCEED IN ANY CASE AND WISHED TO AVOID EMBARRASSING DISCUSSIONS OF SUCH AN OBVIOUSLY MANUFACTURED GRIEVANCE.

5. THE CONSULATE WILL ATTEMPT TO MEET WITH KISIAL UPON HIS RETURN NEXT WEEK AND AT THAT TIME SEEK CLARIFICATION OF HIS MOTIVES AND THE REESTABLISHMENT OF OUT TACIT UNDERSTANDING THAT HE SEEK OUR ASSISTANCE BEFORE DOING ANYTHING PRECIPITOUS. WE FEAR, HOWEVER,

THAT THE TIME WHEN WE COULD ACT AS A RESTRAINING INFLUENCE ON
KISIAL MAY HAVE PASSED FOR GOOD.
JONES

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